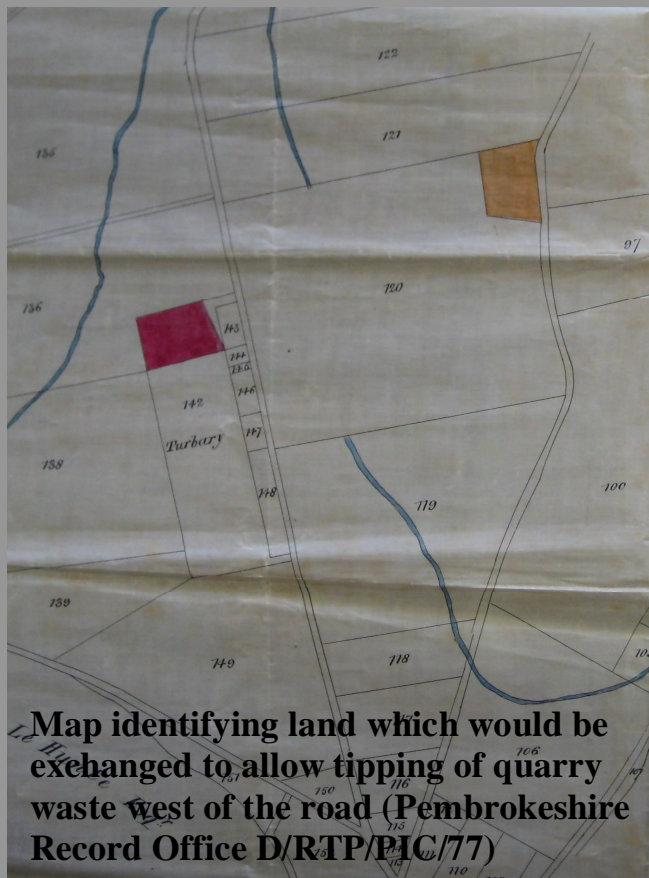


# Slate Quarrying in and around Maenclochog

## The Rosebush quarries

In the later years of the quarries' life water power was used to drive the dressing machinery. A water turbine was installed in the northern end of the dressing shed, fed by a pipeline from the flooded northern pit of the Rosebush Quarry. The pipeline is still in place but the turbine pit is now empty.

There is also evidence to suggest that water power was used much earlier. A leat (watercourse) enters the Bellstone / Precelly Quarry from the north and another can be identified to the south of the Rosebush Quarry – see the map below, dated 1869



Both leats can still be traced although close to the quarries they are lost under the spoil heaps. What is unclear is whether the southern leat was taking water to the quarries or taking the tail water away to be used elsewhere – the map of 1869 indicates the water running down slope, away from the quarry, to the east of Mount Pleasant. This requires further investigation and is typical of the questions which remain unanswered for many of the slate quarries in north Pembrokeshire. The quarries are significant features in the landscape but much of their history and archaeology remains a mystery.

## Water power to the quarry